

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201888

62

ORIGIN NASA-04

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: NASA FLIGHTS IN SUPPORT OF PROJECT AIRSTREAM AND CIAP

1. PROJECT AIRSTREAM AND CLIMATIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (CIAP) ARE PROJECTS OF AEC AND DOT RESPECTIVELY TO MONITOR ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF FOREIGN NUCLEAR DETONATIONS IN UPPER ATMOSPHERE. COLLECTION OF DATA AND AIR SAMPLES WAS PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED BY USAF 58TH WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON UNTIL ITS DISBANDONMENT IN JUNE THIS YEAR. NASA HAS NOW ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR FLIGHTS UTILIZING USAF OWNED WB 57F AIRCRAFT.

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PAGE 02 STATE 201888

2. SUPPORT FLIGHTS WILL OCCUR ROUGHLY 3-4 TIMES A YEAR, FOR BOTH AEC AND DOT PROJECTS. HOWEVER FIRST MISSION SUPPORTED BY NASA SCHEDULED FOR SEPT 23 - OCT 14 WILL SUPPORT AEC/AIRSTREAM PROJECT ONLY.
3. SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF AIRSTREAM FLIGHTS IS TO COLLECT AIR SAMPLES TO DETERMINE LEVEL OF BACKGROUND RADIATION AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF UPPER ATMOSPHERE. FLIGHTS PART OF AEC STUDY OF NUCLEAR DEBRIS.
4. PROJECT IS UNCLASSIFIED; RESULTS ARE PUBLISHED QUARTERLY AND DISSEMINATED WORLDWIDE.
5. ONLY AIR SAMPLE INFORMATION WILL BE TAKEN. AIRCRAFT IS NOT REPEAT NOT CONFIGURED WITH ANY DOWNWARD LOOKING SENSORS.
6. AIRCRAFT WILL CARRY STRIPE NASA 928 AND WILL BE MAINTAINED AND OPERATED EXCLUSIVELY BY NASA.
7. ELEVEN CIVILIAN NASA FLIGHT CREW AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL WILL ACCOMPANY AIRCRAFT.
8. FOURTEEN FLIGHTS ARE SCHEDULED DURING 1ST AIRSTREAM MISSION SEPT 23 - OCT 14. FOUR WILL OVERFLY WESTERN CANADA. THESE FLIGHT TRACKS WILL BE GREAT CIRCLE COURSES BETWEEN MALSTROM AFB, MONTANA AND ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA. TWO FLIGHTS WILL FLY DIRECTLY NORTH FROM ELMENDORF AFB AND RETURN TO ELMENDORF. TWO FLIGHTS WILL BE BETWEEN MALSTROM AFB AND ELLINGTON AFB, TEXAS. ONE FLIGHT WILL FLY SOUTH OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS TO 18 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE AND RETURN TO ELLINGTON AFB. TWO FLIGHTS WILL BE FLOWN BETWEEN ELLINGTON AFB AND HOWARD AFB, CANAL ZONE, PANAMA. ONE FLIGHT WILL FLY NORTH OUT OF HOWARD AFB OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS TO 18 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE AND RETURN TO HOWARD. TWO FLIGHTS WILL FLY SOUTH FROM HOWARD AFB TO ONE DEGREE SOUTH AND 80 DEGREES 50 MINUTES WEST THENCE 5 DEGREES SOUTH 80 DEGREES 50 MINUTES WEST AND THEN 10 DEGREES SOUTH AND 80 DEGREES WEST AND RETURN VIA SAME TRACK.
9. CANADIAN OVERFLIGHTS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN SEPT 23 WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIRCRAFT ARRIVE ELMENDORF ON 23 AND DEPART SEPTEMBER 30. FLIGHTS OUT OF ELMENDORF WILL BE FLOWN BETWEEN LATITUDES 52 AND 75 DEGREES NORTH AND AT ALTITUDES OF 40,000 TO 63,000 FEET. AIRCRAFT THEN TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE HOWARD AFB OCT 2, FLY 3 RETURN FLIGHTS OUT OF HOWARD, AND DEPART BY OCT 14. HOWARD FLIGHTS WILL BE FLOWN BETWEEN LATITUDES 18 NORTH AND 10 SOUTH AND AT 40,000 TO 63,000 FEET.

10. ADDITIONAL DETAILS RE SUPPORT, FUEL, ETC. WILL BE PROVIDED BY PILOT VIA NORMAL USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE PROCEDURES.

11. REQUEST EMBASSIES INFORM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES AND OBTAIN CLEARANCES AS REQUIRED.

12. ALL CLEARANCES SHOULD BE FOR PLUS OR MINUS 72 HOURS.

13. THIS MESSAGE LOU UNTIL CLEARANCES OBTAINED THEN MESSAGE BECOMES UNCLASSIFIED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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